

REMARKS

Claims 1-74 are pending. Claims 1-19 and 65-74 were withdrawn from consideration. Claims 20-24, 26-28, 31, 33, 35, 39-45, 50, 52, 54, 54, and 58-64 were rejected. The remaining claims were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would be allowed if rewritten in independent form incorporating intervening limitations. The allowability of the objected claims is gratefully acknowledged.

Independent claims 20, 39, and 58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hurst (U.S. 6,763,067). Hurst describes "The present invention is directed to certain applications in which an existing compressed video bitstream is processed to generate an output bitstream that is different from the input bitstream. These applications may involve situations where the imagery represented in the bitstream is changed (such as when a logo is inserted into the imagery encoded in the bitstream) or where the size of the bitstream is changed (such as when the bit rate is reduced) or both. According to embodiments of the present invention, the input bitstream is used as a reference to which the output bitstream is conformed. In particular, a controller compares measurements of the input and output bitstreams and adjusts the processing applied to the input bitstream so as to attempt to cause future measurements of the output bitstream to match future measurements of the input bitstream." (Column 2: Lines 20-25)

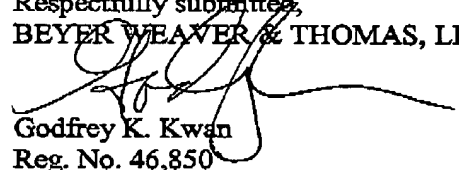
Hurst further specifies "Quantization Re-scale Factors (QRFs) that are generated by control process 26 by comparing particular input and output measurements 20 and 24 generated by measuring processes 18 and 22 based on the input and output bitstreams, respectively. Depending on the implementation, different types of input and output measurements can be used to generate the QRF values." (Column 4: Lines 37-44)

By contrast, the independent claims recite "generating an updated reduction ratio" and "using the updated reduction ratio to allow attainment of a target reduction ratio." Hurst does not describe "generating an updated reduction ratio" or "using the updated reduction ratio to allow attainment of a target reduction ratio." Hurst only describes generating "Quantization Re-scale Factors (QRFs)." (Column 4: Lines 37-38) QRFs are not updated reduction ratios used to "allow attainment of a target reduction ratio." QRFs only change "the quantization matrices and/or quantization scale values used during the quantization of DCT coefficients performed by re-encoder 210." (Column 7: Lines 2-7). "The QRF values (other than those having a value of

1.0) change the degree of quantization applied to the DCT coefficients during re-encoding as compared to those used during the original encoding of the input bitstream." (Column 7: Lines 7-10). No updated reduction ratio is described in Hurst.

In light of the above remarks, the rejections to the independent claims are believed overcome for at least the reasons noted above. Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable in their present form. Please feel free to contact the undersigned at the number provided below if there are any questions, concerns, or remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP



Godfrey K. Kwan
Reg. No. 46,850

P.O. Box 70250
Oakland, CA 94612-0250
(510) 663-1100